

The 125th annual meeting of the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower Association convened at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday February 19, 1994, President Jim Rehfeld presided.

Jim Schleining gave the invocation. The Southeast Colorado Junior Cattlemen's group led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Lawrence Brase of the Lamar Chamber of Commerce gave the welcome.

Sheron Perry, President of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, reported on the activities of her organization and the need for more cattlemen to get involved. Brenda Fickenscher, President, gave the Southeast Colorado Cattlemen's report. Robin Karney, President, gave the Arkansas Valley Cattlemen's report. Both of the latter two reports concerned the Beef Promotion effort of the respective organizations. Marilyn Weber, President-Elect of the American National Cattlemen's Association, reported on Beef Promotions being done world wide to promote American beef.

State Representative Mike Salaz reported on the Legislative effort on agriculture and cautioned the group that assaults affecting agriculture, as we know it, will continue to occur in each session of the legislature. He then answered questions about the Air National Guard Flyover Proposal.

State Representative Bud Mollenberg reported that the National Guard, Limon Facility, Proposal has been withdrawn. Other issues Representative Mollenberg discussed were, the Elk Ranch Bill, which will transfer control from the Department of Wildlife to the Department of Agriculture, and the Private Property Bill which is to be introduced again. It was reported that this bill will be introduced by State Senator Rizzuto as a Senate bill instead of a House bill as has been done in the past.

Sparky Turner from U.S. Senator Hank Brown's office reported on his effort regarding CRP contracts, the Endangered Species Amendment, and Colorado Water Right.

Doris Morgan from U.S. Representative Wayne Allard's office reported on the efforts to reorganize the USDA and make it more "user friendly". She also stressed the need to keep in contact with our Congressmen, with personal letters, and let them know our concerns and needs.

Steve Ptolemy presented the Breeding Beef Awards to the project champions in each of the 5 counties. Present to receive their awards were: Blain Thompson, Baca; Morgan Cline, Bent; Brandi Roberson, Kiowa; and Jason Elmore, Prowers. Not present was: Matt Rufenacht, Otero.



Steve Witte, from the Colorado State Water Commission, spoke to the meeting concerning the Kansas vs. Colorado Water Decision recently handed down. He reported that two of the three issues filed on were dismissed. The only issue that Colorado was found in violation on concerned the development of post Compact wells, the Compact referring to the Kansas-Colorado Water Compact of 1948. It was reported that final ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court likely will not happen until 1996.

Mr. Witte then talked about:

1. The adjudication process for water wells that pump less than 15 gallons of water per minute; it was indicated that wells of this nature do not need adjudication.
2. Application for water rights from a flowing stream to be used as a water source for livestock; if such rights are applied for the applicant should specify exact point of diversion.
3. Well permits for the development of a spring; the \$25 fee for a well permit may be the best course of action.
4. Ponds; above ground stock tanks may be considered a pond but are exempt by law.

Jason Elmore gave the Southeast Colorado Junior Cattlemen's report, giving list of the new officers and a talk about the Scholarship fund raise the Juniors have planned for later in the day.

Steve Ptolemy listed all of the commercial members who donated to the annual banquet fund and expressed the thanks of the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association for their support.

Joe Kasza, President of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, thanked Bent-Prowers for their support. He then reported on the long range plans of CCA concerning the consolidation of livestock organizations in the future for a more united voice on industry wide topics and concerns. Concerns of such a consolidation are that it be grass root driven and be accountable back to the producers it is to be representing, maintenance of a dues structure, and that the lobbying effort be controlled by the dues payers.



Reeves Brown, Executive Vice President of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, reported on several state legislature bills that CCA is monitoring and informed us that CCA has sent a letter to the Air National Guard in opposition to their proposed Two Buttes Military Operations Area. On the federal level, he reported on the monitoring of the Endanger Species Amendment and the Clean Water Act. Also, that the National Biological Survey Act was pulled from consideration after the property rights amendments were added and that haying and grazing of CRP lands is supported on an emergency basis only.

Doug Engerman, CCA Workmans Comp. representative, reported on the advantages of this program to the producer and the qualifications necessary to participate in it.

Mel Depra, District Division of Wildlife representative, discussed the federal grazing fee policy and the need for credit to be given to the producer for conservation practices that have been implemented on leased lands. Mr. Depra also reported that some bills in the legislature concerning gang violence may have an affect on the severity of charges issued on some DOW laws.

#### Business meeting

Ross Nielsen made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes and accept them as they had been handed out. Steve Ptolemy seconded. Motion Passed

Milton Rink presented the audit report, proposed budget, and summary and moved that the report be accepted. Seconded by Pat Kerney. Motion passed. Milton then thanked the treasurer, Bruce Fickenscher, for a job well done.

John Smartt presented the Endowment Trust Fund report and moved that it be accepted as presented. Seconded by Hans Hasser. Motion passed

Hans Hasser presented the Resolution Committee Report.

#1 concerned prairie dog control

#2 concerned CRP plow out

#3 concerned the Air National Guard Initiative

#4 Thank you to those who helped with the annual meeting

#5 Memorial to deceased members

Hans Hasser moved to adopt the resolutions. Seconded by Steve McEndree. Resolutions #1, #3, #4, and #5 passed. #2 failed.



Nomination Chairman Ros Nielsen nominated the following officers and directors for 1994:

President, Steve Ptolemy; 1st Vice President, Hans Hasser; 2nd Vice President, David Mendenhall; Secretary-treasure, Bruce Fickenscher; Past Presidents, Jim Rehfeld, Ross Nielsen, Steve McEndree; Directors from Prowers County, Milton Rink, Dale Seufer, Ray Hays, and Kerry Hartshorn; Directors from Bent County, Glen Brown, Arthur Davis, Joe Kasza, and John Smartt; Directors from Kiowa County, Greg Shalberg, Virgil Lessenden, and Kent Johnston; Directors from Otero County, Bill Gray and Pat Karney; Directors from Baca County, Jess Perkins, Randy Shaw, and Corwin Brown.

Steve McEndree moved for the acceptance by acclimation. Seconded by John Smartt. Motion passed.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bruce Fickenscher*

Bruce Fickenscher



Resolution #1 *passed*

Whereas prairie dogs are a major problem on both privately owned land and state land, and whereas the expense to control prairie dogs has been absorbed by the land owner or the lessee in the case of state lease land and,

Whereas the cost of control is extremely expensive to the land owner or lessee and whereas the control is vital to the cattle industry.

Therefore be it resolved that the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association encourage the Colorado Cattlemans Association to support efforts to have the Colorado Division of Wildlife be responsible for the expense involved in controlling prairie dogs and the damages they cause on private land and state land.

Resolution #2 *failed*

Whereas Acreages enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program will start to come out of the program in 1995, and whereas the cattle industry opposes the plowing out of rangeland.

Therefore be it resolved that the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association opposes the plowing out of Conservation Reserve Program acres after they leave the program.

Resolution #3 *passed*

Whereas the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association is greatly concerned about private property rights and, whereas private property rights are being assulted and diminished at an alarming rate and,

Whereas the private property rights shall include surface, mineral, water, usage and air space rights.

Therefore be it resolved that the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association encourage the Colorado Cattlemans Association to oppose the Colorado Air National Guard Initiative and will use all of its available resources to protect air space and all other personal property rights.



Resolution #4 *passed*

Be it resolved that the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association take this opportunity to offer sincere thanks and appreciation to the companies, media, and individuals who have made us welcome here in Lamar and so generously contributed to the success of this 125th annual meeting.

Resolution #5 *passed*

Since our last annual meeting, many of our beloved and valued members passed to their reward. We who remain, have enjoyed and benefitted from their association, and we are saddened by their absence.

We share in the sorrow of their families and loved ones and to their memory, we pledge to support the principles which these great men and women, who have gone on before us, have firmly instilled in our association.

We, the members of the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association, now stand to take a moment to memorialize our deceased members.